

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMARKS ON THE PASSING OF WALTER SHORENSTEIN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Walter Shorenstein. When word of Walter's passing came to the Capitol, sadness was felt throughout this building. Not only did we lose a great American, but for many of us in public office, we lost a great friend. We shared stories of Walters's life and his legacy.

Before I left Washington last Friday, I received messages from all over; from Members of Congress and from people around the country. On my way home to California this weekend, I went to four states, and in every state I heard stories about Walter. I hope it is a comfort to the Shorenstein family that so many people share their loss and respect their father.

The outpouring of respect and affection for Walter Shorenstein brings to mind a passage from Ecclesiasticus, "Now let us praise great men the heroes of our nation. They led the people by their counsel and their knowledge of the laws. From their font of wisdom, they gave instruction. These are godly men whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten. Their wealth is their descendants and their inheritance is their children's children. Their bodies are buried in peace and their names will live forever. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will continue to sing their praise."

I want to praise Walter as a patriot and a patriarch. He loved America and served his country his entire life. In the Air Force in World War II, as a civic leader, and as a philanthropist, he worked to strengthen our Nation.

Walter knew that our democracy depended on people having a chance to get ahead. In that respect he was a democrat with the small "d." He practiced this in his professional life and advocated this as public policy, and in that respect he was a Democrat with a capital "D." It was also part of his family tradition. He always smiled with pride talking about Hyman Shorenstein, his uncle, and the Democratic boss of Brooklyn for over 30 years. He even told me on a number of occasions that to cross Hyman, you might be "Shorensteined." In other words, it was a verb.

Walter understood how essential freedom of the press was to our democracy. With that in mind he founded the Joan Shorenstein Center for Press, Politics and Public Policy. He brought together great minds on the subject and honored Joan's understanding on the relationship between the press, at which she excelled, and power, which she covered.

Walter understood power and was an advisor and friend to Democratic Presidents Lyndon Johnson, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton. He was also a friend and advisor to many who aspired to be president, too numerous to mention.

He had a special relationship with Secretary Hillary Clinton, and Ted Kennedy was family. His leadership was acknowledged and praised by President Barack Obama.

Much has been said about how generous Walter was financially to political causes. He was also a great intellectual resource and mentor. He was politically astute and his views were respected.

My colleagues in Congress, such as Congressman GEORGE MILLER, Congresswoman ANN ESHOO, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI often spoke of how prepared you had to be when you went to visit Walter. You always left with words of wisdom, and assigned reading.

Walter wasn't always easy. He was very competitive. We always knew that on our visits and our phone calls, we'd be challenged. And the most annoying part was that Walter was always right.

Walter was successful because he was smart and he was always ready for the task ahead. When we would ask him what he thought about bringing the Democratic Convention to San Francisco, my running for Congress or for leadership, Walter would say, "Just do it." Walter coined that phrase well before Nike did. And when Walter said "just do it," he would also say, "I will help make it happen." You knew you would succeed with Walter at your side.

Walter was a patriarch to the community, but what mattered most to him was to be a devoted father to his family. Today as we pay tribute to Walter, we must also remember Phyllis and her quiet, dignified, and strong demeanor. If anyone wanted to see the powerful Walter Shorenstein melt, they just needed to see him around Phyllis.

Everyone knows how much he loved his children: Joan, Carole, and Doug, and he glowed with pride in their success. They honored their parent's traditions, which included making their own extraordinary mark on the world. And he loved his grandchildren Sarah, Wally, Grace, Brandon, Sandra and Danielle. What a great legacy you all are to Phyllis and Walter.

Walter Shorenstein died as he had lived: surrounded by his family and loved ones, in charge of his own situation, and ready. Now that he has passed, we take comfort that his spirit is with Joan and Phyllis.

Patriot, patriarch, especially family man and friend, today Walter Shorenstein is mourned and praised across the country. But he is especially mourned in the community of San Francisco, where we knew him the best and loved him the most. He had a wonderful life. May he rest in peace.

HONORING MR. LEONARD M. SCIOLINO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the work of Leonard

M. Sciolino upon his retirement as Director of the City of Buffalo's Division of Parking Enforcement.

A very good friend, Lenny has had a long and successful career in public service. Lenny started as a staffer at the Buffalo Common Council, serving under then-Council President George K. Arthur. It was in this position that I came to know Lenny well, as he served as a council staffer during my full tenure as South District Councilmember, from 1988 to 1993.

Following the successful election of Tony Masiello as Mayor of Buffalo, Lenny was appointed to his current position, where he has been the architect of many technological advances.

As a member of the International Parking Institute Lenny has participated in numerous Central Business District Surveys and Parking Studies citywide and nationally. In addition, Lenny pursued and implemented numerous technological changes in his department, including Optical Imaging and Scanning and solar-powered pay stations with radio frequency.

Active in the Democratic Party for many years, Lenny has served as a committeeman, a city Zone Chairman, and has involved himself in dozens of local campaigns.

Lenny has many things for which he is very proud, but his proudest accomplishments are those involving his family. Lenny and his wife Linda are the parents of sons Lenny III, and Kevin, and are proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Lenny IV, Milena and Francesca, and Jack.

Madam Speaker, I hope that you and our colleagues in the House will join me in wishing Godspeed to Len Sciolino upon the occasion of his retirement, and wishing Len, Linda and the entire Sciolino family the best of health in the months and years to come.

HONORING RICK ALGERT UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Rick Algert on the occasion of his retirement after 20 years as Harbor Director and Harbormaster for the City of Morro Bay. He is truly an asset to our local community and his excellent work is reflected in Morro Bay's Harbor.

Mr. Algert has spent much of his life on the coast and in the City of Morro Bay. He grew up in Fallbrook, California and came to Morro Bay from the City of Eureka. Prior to that he lived in the City of Santa Barbara, where he attended the University of California and received a degree in Business. Rick and his wife Nancy have three children; Bridgett, Paul and Jamie.

Mr. Algert is deeply familiar with the workings of Morro Bay. He has been involved with

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

almost every essential aspect of the Harbor's functioning over the last two decades. He was responsible for developing and implementing several major projects in the Harbor, including the reconstruction of the South T-Pier, rebuilding the Beach Street slips, dredging the City Mooring area, the North T-Pier re-decking project, and the Fisherman's Gear Storage building.

Mr. Algert has also been the voice of the Harbor and has been its tireless advocate at the local, state and federal levels. He has been instrumental in keeping the City Council abreast of important issues like economic development and federal dredging dollars. And he was a consistent advocate for our local fishing families, representing their views at meetings throughout the country. Finally, he maintained a balanced budget and aimed to provide the highest level of service and efficiency from the Harbor Department and Harbor Patrol, and he did so with no revenue derived from taxes, which stands as a testament to his skill as a public servant.

I commend Mr. Algert's gift of talent, passion, and his devotion to service. His work has been central to helping our waterfront communities flourish in difficult times. I feel deeply honored to share this community with Rick Algert and I have seen first hand the effect of his work on Morro Bay. I wish him much happiness and much deserved relaxation in retirement, knowing fully that he will remain deeply connected to our community, its businesses, Harbor tenants and boat owners.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5175, the Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections, or DISCLOSE Act. This legislation addresses serious concerns raised by the recent Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC* by increasing transparency in our electoral process. My colleague from Maryland, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and my fellow New Yorker, Senator SCHUMER deserve thanks for their leadership on this issue.

The recent Supreme Court ruling grants even greater influence to powerful special interests—effectively drowning out the voices of average Americans. This legislation provides voters with the opportunity to make informed decisions—shedding light on the millions of dollars being spent with the intent to influence elections and politicians in Washington.

The DISCLOSE Act eliminates “pay-to-play” by preventing government contractors—and

TARP recipients—from spending money on elections. The bill extends the current ban on political spending by foreign nationals to include domestic corporations controlled by foreign nationals, requires corporate CEOs to stand by their political ads in the same way candidates must, and enhances disclosure requirements for political expenditures by organizations who lobby government officials.

The legislation before us today is not a perfect bill, but it is a necessary first step to rein in the influence of special interests in our political process. The American people are greatly concerned by the recent Supreme Court ruling, and they rightly fear that only big money and special interests get a hearing in Washington. Passage of the DISCLOSE Act will bring transparency and accountability to campaigns and ensure Americans' voices are not drowned out by corporate dollars.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF ADDISON, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of Addison, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1883, the Village of Addison was settled by Hezekiah Dunklee and Mason Smith. In 1884, Addison was incorporated, and Henry Buchholz became its first Mayor. The election had a modest turnout, with only 28 votes being cast.

In the years since its humble founding, Addison has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Over the years, Addison has developed a well-deserved reputation as an enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

On the occasion of this 125th anniversary, we join together to celebrate Addison's legacy of growth and prosperity, and to look ahead to the opportunities the future holds for our local community and our Nation. Today both marks 125 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me on this special occasion in offering well wishes and happiness to Addison Village President Larry Hartwig, the Village Board of Trustees and all the citizens of Addison.

KUWAIT AND GULF LINK TRANSPORT COMPANY (KGL)

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, as you know, the issue of negligence by Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company (KGL) was brought to my attention by the family of the

late Colonel Dominic (Rocky) Baragona. The tragic death of Lieutenant Colonel Dominic Baragona, Jr., occurred on May 19, 2003 on a road in Iraq. His death was caused by the simple, avoidable negligence of a tractor trailer truck owned by KGL, the predecessor company to an enormous group of international Kuwaiti companies, which have and continue to perform large U.S. government contracts potentially worth billions of U.S. dollars and with a vital mission. KGL's tractor trailer careened across three lanes of a highway in the middle of a clear, sunny day and destroyed the Humvee in which Colonel Baragona was riding. At the time of his death, Colonel Baragona had served honorably during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was on his way home to his family. KGL's subsequent conduct in the case brought against them led the Honorable William Duffey, Jr., the U.S. federal judge hearing the case, to write the following in his decision on the case:

“[A]s the Court communicated to the parties in the December 2008 hearing, KGL's conduct in this case was indignant and callous. KGL derived substantial revenue from its contracts with the United States Army. KGL and other Kuwaitis received unquantifiable benefits from the protection the United States Armed Forces have provided to Kuwait for over fifteen years. For KGL to then turn a blind eye to the death caused by a KGL employee of a United States service member, who was on duty protecting the region at the time of the incident, is an affront to the solemn sacrifices service members such as Lt. Col. Baragona honorably provided to Iraq and the citizens of other countries in the Middle East region. KGL took this callousness even further by causing Plaintiffs to expend nearly four years and significant expense in merely getting the question of jurisdiction before the Court. The Court implored KGL to work with Plaintiffs to fashion a just resolution in this case, but this request was ignored.”

I agree. The Baragonas commenced litigation, established a prima facie case of in personum jurisdiction over KGL and endured the personal rigors of the litigation. This burden includes giving testimony during a damages hearing, only to discover that KGL's apparent strategy was to cause the Baragona family to expend their resources for years. This despite the fact that KGL intended to challenge the judgment after it issued in the same court that KGL assiduously ignored during the years of litigation and several notices of the court case and its proceedings. The emotional burden borne by the family of the deceased serviceman was very high; the long years of litigation over their son's death in combination with the sudden entry of the defendant and the challenge to the judgment is not a cost that should be ignored or encouraged.

In the course of the Baragonas' quest for justice against KGL, the family gathered evidence from credible news reports and other sources that KGL has a subsidiary, Combined Shipping Company, which is a partner with ValFajr Shipping Company, a subsidiary of Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (“IRISL”), a company banned by the U.S. Treasury and now the named subject of the recently announced U.N. sanctions on Iran. We do not have any evidence that KGL's subsidiary has participated with IRISL in sending explosives into Iraq to kill US service personnel. However, it is often true that